

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 02208 051433Z

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 ACDA-05 DODE-00 NSC-05

SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 MC-02 IGA-02 /061 W

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R 051335Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8169

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 2208

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MILI, CA, KE

SUBJECT: KENYAN APPROACH TO CANADA FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE

REF: NAIROBI 2171 (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING THEIR RECENT WASHINGTON VISIT KENYAN MILITARY DELEGATION VISITED TORONTO FEBRUARY 20 TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE PURCHASES OF CANADIAN MILITARY EQUIPMENT. CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION IN NAIROBI HAS ADVISED US THAT KENYANS WERE OFFERED SIX BUFFALO TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT (WORTH ABOUT \$30 MILLION) ALONG WITH EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FINANCING. IN ADDITION, KENYANS MET WITH MARCONI REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF GROUND RADIO COMMUNICATION AND DIRECTION-FINDING EQUIPMENT WORTH UP TO \$6-8 MILLION. EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION ALSO OFFERED TO FINANCE PURCHASE OF THIS EQUIPMENT. NO FIRM DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE AS YET, AND CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION NOT INFORMED OF TERMS ON WHICH CREDITS OFFERED.

2. IF KENYANS DECIDE TO PURCHASE BUFFALO AIRCRAFT, THERE IS STRONG POSSIBILITY THAT THREE OF THESE AIRCRAFT COULD BE DELIVERED BY ABOUT JULY 1 IF ZAIRE FAILS--AS EXPECTED--TO EXERCISE OPTION TO PURCHASE BY APRIL 1. THIS WOULD GIVE KENYAN ARMED FORCES IMPORTANT PSYCHOLOGICAL BOOST WHICH COULD HELP OFFSET UNSETTLING EFFECT PRODUCED BY PRESIDENT AMIN'S
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RECENT STATEMENTS IMPLYING CLAIM TO PART OF KENYA.
MARSHALL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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